

# The Village of Northfield

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

February 26, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jesse J. Nehez at 7:30 p.m.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited**

ROLL CALL: The following were present: Mayor Jesse J. Nehez; Beatrice Greenlee, Linda Bowen, Alan Hipps, Gary Vojtush, Nicholas Magistrelli and Ethan Miladinovic. In addition, Law Director, Brad Bryan, Finance Director Monica James, Chief Mark Wentz and Service/Building Supervisor, Jason Walters were present.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion for approval of the February 12, 2014 minutes was made by Beatrice Greenlee seconded by Nick Magistrelli, passed with 6 ayes.

### **PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, MEMORIALS AND REMONSTRANCES:**

Nick Kostandaras addressed the Mayor and Council stating he is speaking with Kristina Roegner and other State Representatives on behalf of the Village of Northfield, to keep the full second million and not divided between other communities. Mr. Kostandaras has been sending letters, making phone calls and even started a petition. Mr. Kostandaras feels that the money should stay in Summit County and the Village.

Mr. Kostandaras also encouraged Mayor and Council to encourage a YES vote on a May ballot, State Capital Improvement Project. Mr. Kostandaras also asked if the information on the FEMA Grant was received.

Mayor Nehez stated he had passed the information along to Chief Buss.

### **GUEST SPEAKER: NONE**

### **REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL OFFICERS:**

- A. **MAYOR JESSE J. NEHEZ** stated he along with Brad Bryan and Chief Wentz had again gone to Columbus to speak before the Ohio State House of Representatives Committee in regards to Substitute HB 377. Unfortunately Mr. Jason Walters was unable to attend but Mr. Bryan was able to read his testimony. Everyone is confident that the Village will receive the full million
- B. **FINANCE DIRECTOR MONICA A. JAMES** stated that along with Mayor Nehez they have met with Chief Buss and Mr. Walters, working on the 2014 Permanent Appropriations. Will be meeting with Chief Wentz next week. Will have a draft for Council to review before the work session.
- C. **ENGINEER RICHARD WASOSKY**, was not present
- D. **LAW DIRECTOR BRADRIC BRYAN** stated he was working on Legislation Licensing and Regulation for Second Hand Dealer Business. He has spoken to Mr. Walters, Lt. Mackie and Sgt. Carlile are reviewing at this time.

### **E. DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

- 1. **Police Department, Chief Mark Wentz**, did not have a report but was present incase Council had any questions regarding his Testimony in Columbus, see attached.

2. **Fire Department, Fire Chief Jason Buss**, was not present
3. **Service/Building Supervisor, Jason Walters**, see attached

Mr. Vojtush asked about the vehicle which had been parked at 199 Ledge since last June, several people have called him regarding it parked for so long and the extension cord running from the vehicle into the building. Mr. Vojtush wants to know who gave permission for the person to park especially when they are not a resident.

Mr. Walters explained that it was a contractor working at the Rocksino, he lives across the street from 199 Ledge, and Mr. Walters gave him permission since he was working in our Town. In addition, the vehicle is a diesel and the few nights that it went below zero, he allowed the vehicle to be plugged into the Service Dept. Building.

Mr. Vojtush feels that Mr. Walters does not have the Authority to give anyone permission to park on Village property. In addition Mr. Vojtush wants to know if we are going to bill the Macedonia Resident for the use of our electricity.

Mr. Walters stated there is no Legislation, for or against allowing anyone to park on Village Property, since Mr. Walters started working for the Village in 1995, permission has been granted based on circumstances, has not been an issue in the past. Also Mr. Walters states that no complaints were received prior January. Mr. Walters stated that the vehicle has been moved and he would be more than happy to contact those that complained to explain the situation to them.

Mr. Vojtush stated that it was not necessary for Mr. Walters to contact.

#### **REPORTS OF MUNICIPAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**

- A. **PLANNING COMMISSION, ALAN HIPPS**, stated he would have to new members to present to Council at the next meeting.
- B. **RECREATION BOARD, MAYOR JESSE NEHEZ**, stated the first meeting is scheduled for March 6, the first Thursday, at 7:30 p.m.

#### **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

- A. **FINANCE: LINDA BOWEN**, stated the Committee had met tonight, then asked Mr. Bryan to read Ordinance 2014-110.

Ordinance 2014-11 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading - An Emergency Ordinance Approving the payment of invoices for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of February in the amount of \$59,437.65

A motion for approval was made by Linda Bowen, seconded by Beatrice Greenlee, passed with 6 ayes

Mrs. Bowen stated the Finance Committee is going back to meeting once a month, on a trial basis; meeting will be March 26, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. A work session has been scheduled for March 12 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the Permanent Appropriations for 2014

- B. **ROADS/PUBLIC WORKS: ETHAN MILADINOVIC** stated he is please with the job the Service Department has done in snow removal.
- C. **HEALTH AND WELFARE: GARY VOJTUSH**, stated he received paperwork from Mrs. James regarding our current Health Insurance, will be scheduling a meeting in the future, once he has reviewed the paperwork.
- D. **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: ALAN HIPPS**, had nothing to report

**E. WAGES AND WORKING CONDITIONS: NICHOLAS MAGISTRELLI** had no report.

**F. FIRE AND SAFETY: BEATRICE GREENLEE** had nothing to report

**LEGISLATION:**

Resolution 2014-09 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading – An Emergency Resolution Setting Forth The Rate Of Pay For Members Of The Fire Department.

Mrs. Greenlee stated Council would like this to go to a 3rd reading.

Mr. Bryan stated would be on the next agenda as a 3rd<sup>d</sup> reading.

**OLD BUSINESS; NEW BUSINESS; ANNOUNCEMENTS; ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Greenlee expressed everyone's sympathy to Linda Bowen and her Family

Mrs. Greenlee announced her grandson was accepted into Yale University

Mr. Miladinovic stated Local Union 38 Electrical Union, would be more than willing to help with any fundraisers.

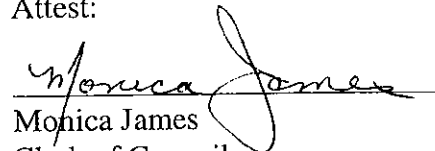
A motion for adjournment at 8:15 p.m. was made by Beatrice Greenlee, seconded by Linda Bowen, passed with 6 ayes

Respectfully submitted by:



Beatrice Greenlee  
President of Council

Attest:



Monica James  
Clerk of Council

# THE VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD

68 HOUGHTON ROAD  
NORTHFIELD VILLAGE, OHIO 44067  
330-467-7139x20  
Fax: 330-468-4270

HAROLD JASON WALTERS, SERVICE/BUILDING DEPARTMENT SUPERINTENDENT

February 26, 2013 Council meeting: Service, Building and Zoning Department report:

1. **SALT USAGE** - Salt usage to date is approximately 1450 tons and we have approximately 150 tons on hand. Last year we used approximately 800 tons for the entire season.
2. **199 LEDGE RD** – The Truck parked at this location has been moved. The issue I have, is since becoming an employee here in 1995 this has never been a issue as far as allowing parking in some circumstances. There is no Village ordinance that prohibit Parking Nor has it ever been made some kind of rule. Granted we cant open the gates and allow everyone to park where in when they want but as Circumstances arise the Village can determine if permission be granted or not. So this has left me some what confused. But the Gentleman has moved his truck.
3. **EQUIPMENT** – Our Equipent is holding up well especially considering the Brutal winter and the many hours these trucks have been working. We are keeping them maintained and inspected daily. Chris While does a great Job keeping the Equipment in Check. We have had some minor issues but over all its been very good.
4. **POT HOLES** – We have cold patched many holes this season most of the same holes many times being there has not been a week in months we have not had to plow snow. We plane to cold patch again next week providing the weather allows us to.
5. **Senior Snow Removal** – This program is going very well and in a winter like this it has truly saved our town to have it in house and it has meant a lot to our Residents in this program. I am very please with the way the program is going.
6. **Service Employees** – This has been a brutal winter to say the least. I am very proud of the people within my department for the way they have worked to try and keep the roads safe for all traveling. They have truly worked very hard and many hours this season and I do appreciate each and everyone of them. Lrod too has done a fantastic job keeping everything in order and organized. I should also Mention that Police and Fire have done a great job working with us threw this Horrible winter! Thank You!

Thank you,  
Harold J. Walters

HJW:lmr

# *The Village of Northfield Fire Department*

10271 Northfield Road • Northfield, OH 44067

330-467-7139 ext 22 • 330-467-7152 FAX

Fire Chief Jason L Buss

330-523-9422 Business Cell

firechief@northfieldvillage-oh.gov

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February 25, 2014

## **Activity Report**

- A detailed copy of fire department activity is available upon request.
- As of *February 25, 2014*, NVFD responded to a total of **102** incidents. **75** of those incidents were EMS related and **27** incidents were FIRE related.
- NVFD has provided mutual aid for **5** incidents, provided automatic aid **5** times, and received mutual aid for **1** incident
- NVFD's average response time from time of call till time on scene is **4:26\***
  - o NVFD has had some long response times due to mutual aide incidents with long travel distances

## **Fire Inspector / Prevention Report**

- The fire alarm system for "Club Velvet" was tested on 2/26/2014. Tentative opening date is around March 10, 2014
- Fire Prevention is working with Goodwill to assist their move
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## **Department News**

- **Staffing** – NVFD is seeking applications to help fill open positions on the Northfield Park EMS ambulance and looking to hire additional members who are Nordonias Hills residents or residents of nearby communities. This is an effort to increase our "call back" manpower.
- **800mHz Summit County Radio System & Dispatch** – Have been meeting with TAC Fire and Macedonia Dispatch on upgrades to our CAD functionality and increases in the services the department receives.
- **Insurance Services Organization Review** – Results expected in May
- **Hard Rock Rocksino** – NVFD responded to 27 medical incidents and 0 fire incidents Since January 1, 2014. NVFD has responded to 45 incidents since opening. UH medical staff treated around 155 patients in that same time period. NVFD anticipates a call volume increase of about 200 calls in 2014 due to the Rocksino.
- **Questions?**

*"Our Family Protecting Yours"*

**Mark Wentz, Chief of Police**  
Village of Northfield  
10455 Northfield Road  
Northfield, Ohio 44067  
Phone: 330.467.7130 x6  
mwentz@northfieldvillage-oh.gov

Chairman Blair, Ranking Member Clyde, and members of the House State and Local Government Committee, I am Mark Wentz, the Chief of Police of the Village of Northfield. I am here before you today to express my opposition to Substitute House Bill 377.

As the Northfield Police Chief for the past 13 years, a resident of Walton Hills since 2001, and a police officer for 21 years with the Village of North Randall, the community where Thistledown Racetrack & Racino is located, I feel uniquely qualified to speak to this issue.

The Village of Northfield is a small community of approximately 3800 residents that comprises a little more than one square mile in area. With the exception of the Northfield Park Racetrack and Hard Rock Rocksino Northfield, the Village essentially consists of single family homes, a few small apartment complexes, and a myriad of small retail businesses along the Northfield Road/State Route 8 corridor.

I started as a North Randall Police Officer around the time Randall Mall was built. At that time, Randall Park Mall was the largest mall of its kind in the United States. As a result, I experienced first-hand the impact an immediate influx of responsibilities from a major attraction can have on a small community.

With that in mind, my Department and I have worked hard over the past year to ready ourselves for the construction and opening of the Rocksino. Countless hours have been spent visiting and/or speaking with other communities similar to our size that house gambling and entertainment facilities. Time and money has been spent on planning and training our officers for both the additional routine responsibilities and the remote scenarios that our Department presently and potentially faces. Due to the Rocksino's 24 hour schedule and 12,000 visitors per day, additional Police Department staffing has been required on the evening and overnight shifts. Since the Rocksino just opened in the end of December of 2013, those staff increases occurred before the Village's receipt of any additional tax revenues from the Rocksino, most of which are received two to three months in arrears and are just starting to come in. As a result, a portion of the Village's first Casino Operator Settlement Fund Payment was necessary to help pay for that additional staffing and the Department's equipment needs.

community payment from the Village of Northfield. I see no justification for the other communities to receive any of the funds when Northfield has 100% of the new facility within the Northfield limits and 100% of the law enforcement and prosecution responsibilities related to the Rocksino. Walton Hills and Macedonia have no additional police responsibilities as a result of the opening of the Rocksino.

Northfield Village is a much less affluent community than our neighbors. The Village's carryover into its General Fund for the year was \$400,000, while Walton Hills, which has a similar population to Northfield, carried over in excess of \$3,000,000. Macedonia's carryover was \$8,000,000. As the Police Chief of Northfield Village I can tell you that Northfield needs and has justification for the money. As a resident of Walton Hills, I can appreciate my elected officials' attempts to garner funds for my hometown, yet, Walton Hills' needs are not coupled with the Rocksino's presence. The same can be said for Macedonia. A combined 17% of the property that makes up Northfield Park Racetrack is in those two communities. 100% of the calls to the Rocksino for Police, Fire and Service are Northfield's responsibility. As such, Walton Hills and Macedonia deserve no consideration for any portion of the money. Northfield's needs, which are tied directly to the Rocksino being wholly in our community, far outweigh any arguments for funds that either Walton Hills or Macedonia can put forth.

As a result of the above, I am imploring you not to adopt Substitute House Bill 377. The adoption of the Bill would have a significant impact on the Village of Northfield and my Department. I appreciate the opportunity to testify in opposition to the Bill. Thank you for your time and consideration and your service to the State of Ohio.

I would be delighted to entertain any questions that the Committee might have at this time.